



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 21-0646 Date: April 14, 2021
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Bacon Bill Status: House Education
Sen. Fields; Sonnenberg Fiscal Analyst: Anna Gerstle | 303-866-4375
Anna.Gerstle@state.co.us

Bill Topic: EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Summary of Fiscal Impact:
State Revenue [] TABOR Refund []
State Expenditure [x] Local Government []
State Transfer [] School District [x]

The bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education streamline application processes and other requirements for extended learning opportunity programs that address the learning impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill increases state workload on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) streamline certain requirements for extended learning opportunity programs that address the learning impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Extended learning opportunities may include summer school programming, extended school days or weeks, high-impact tutoring, social-emotional supports, and mental health supports tied to academic success.

The bill authorizes CDE to:

- create a combined application for grant programs and other sources of funding;
• identify extended learning opportunities and funding sources that match a local education provider's (LEP) needs;
• streamline data collection and common data reporting requirements for LEPs;
• streamline annual reporting by CDE to the Governor, General Assembly, and executive branch agencies; and
• if funding is available for the evaluation of at least one extended learning opportunity, create common evaluation criteria and metrics for programs being evaluated.

The State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary, and the General Assembly may appropriate money for implementation of state-funded extended learning opportunities.

Funding for rural LEPs. CDE must reserve a proportionate share of money available for state-funded grants for extended learning opportunities for rural LEPs, and is encouraged to do the same for federally funded extended learning opportunities.

Progress monitoring. The bill requires that LEPs receiving funding for extended learning opportunities establish an internal progress monitoring system to measure the effectiveness of the extended learning opportunities through student educational gains. The monitoring system must allow for reporting on student demographic categories, and sharing of best practices.

State Expenditures

Beginning in the current FY 2020-21, the bill increases workload for CDE to streamline application processes and modify grant funding processes. The increased workload will be handled by staff allocated for individual grant programs. Work includes modifying data and reporting platforms, launching an online application, and adjusting processes for both program staff and the grants office. No change in appropriations is required.

School District

By streamlining the application, data collection, evaluation, and reporting processes, the bill reduces workload for school districts that would apply for multiple funding sources or programs related to providing extended learning opportunities. The bill also increases workload for districts to put an internal progress monitoring system in place.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

School Districts